

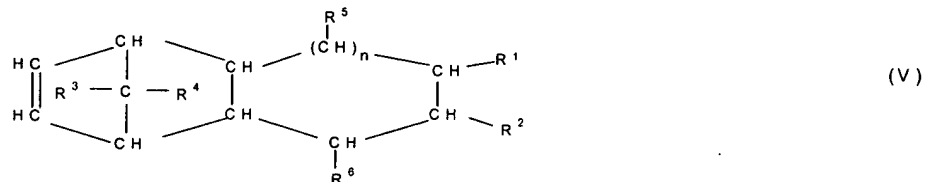
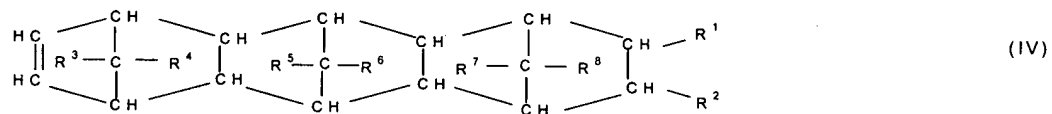
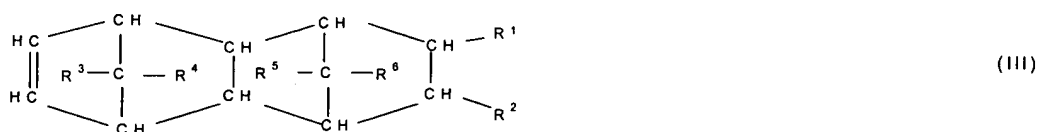
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

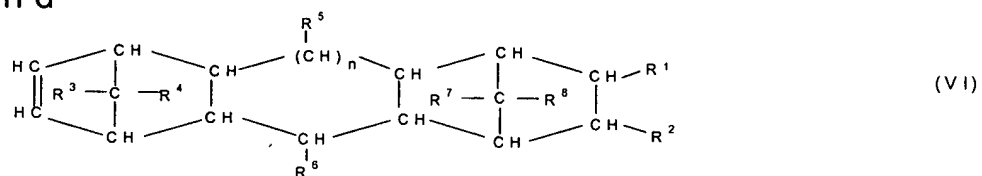
- 1 (Currently Amended) A cycloolefin copolymer resin having a Hunter b color value of less than 1.0, which resin comprises:
 - a) first cycloolefin copolymer having a glass transition temperature of from about 100°C to about 220°C, an intrinsic viscosity of from about 5 to about 1000 ml/g as measured in decalin at 135°C, and a molar-mass distribution (M_w/M_n) of less than 2,
 - b) ~~up to~~ from about 0.5 to about 10% by weight, based on the total weight of the resin, of a second cycloolefin copolymer, said second cycloolefin copolymer having a glass transition temperature of greater than about 50°C and an intrinsic viscosity of from about 1 to about 500 ml/g as measured in decalin at 135°C, and
 - c) from about 0.01% to about 3%, based on the total weight of the resin, of at least one lubricant selected from the group consisting of fatty acid esters of aliphatic polyhydric alcohols,

with the proviso that the glass temperature of the second cycloolefin copolymer is at least 25°C lower than the glass transition temperature of the first cycloolefin copolymer and wherein the resin is substantially free of zinc stearate.

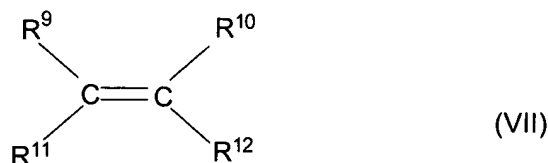
- 2 (Previously Presented) A resin as described in claim 1 wherein said first and second cycloolefin copolymers are random copolymers comprising units derived from (a) at least one cycloolefin selected from the group consisting of:



and



wherein $R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7$, and R^8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 to C_{20} alkyl groups, C_6 to C_{20} aryl groups, F, Cl, Br, and I, and n is an integer having a value from 0 to 5; (b) a non-cyclic 1-olefin of the formula:

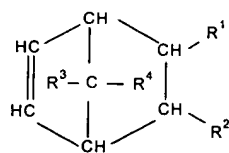


wherein R^9 to R^{12} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1 to C_8 alkyl groups; and, optionally, (c) a cycloolefin of the formula:



wherein m is an integer having a value from 2 to 10.

- 3 (Original) A resin as described in claim 2 wherein said second cycloolefin copolymer is present in an amount of from about 0.5 to about 5 weight percent, based on the total weight of the resin and said lubricant is present in an amount of from about 0.05 to about 1.5 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the resin.
- 4 (Original) A resin as described in claim 3 wherein said first cycloolefin copolymer has a T_g of from about 100°C to about 185°C . and said second cycloolefin copolymer has a T_g of from about 55°C to about 70°C .
- 5 (Original) A resin as described in claim 4 wherein said first and second cycloolefin copolymers comprise units derived from ethylene and a cycloolefin of the formula:



(I)

- 6 (Original) A resin as defined in claim 1 having a Hunter b color value of less than 0.8.
- 7 (Original) A resin as defined in claim 1 wherein said lubricant is selected from the group consisting of pentaerythritol tetrastearate, pentaerythritol distearate, and mixtures thereof.
- 8 (Original) A resin as defined in claim 7 wherein said lubricant is pentaerythritol tetrastearate.
- 9 (Previously Presented) A cycloolefin resin having a Hunter b color value of less than 0.8, which resin consists essentially of:
 - (a) a first cycloolefin copolymer having a glass transition temperature of from about 120°C to about 160°C, an intrinsic viscosity of from about 5 to about 1000 ml/g as measured in decalin at 135°C, and a molar-mass distribution (M_w/M_n) of less than 2,
 - (b) from about 0.5 to about 10% by weight, based on the total weight of the resin, of a second cycloolefin copolymer, said second cycloolefin copolymer having a glass transition temperature of from about 55°C to about 85°C and an intrinsic viscosity of from about 1 to about 500 ml/g as measured in decalin at 135°C,
 - (c) from about 0.05 to about 1.5 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the resin, of at least one fatty ester of a polyhydric alcohol, and
 - (d) optionally, up to about 1 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the resin of an antioxidant,

wherein the resin is substantially free of zinc stearate.
- 10 (Original) A resin as described in claim 9 wherein said second cycloolefin copolymer has a Tg of from about 55°C to about 70°C.

11 (Cancelled)

12 (Previously Presented) A resin as described in claim 10 wherein said second cycloolefin copolymer is present in an amount of from about 0.5 to about 5 weight percent, based on the total weight of the resin.

13 (Original) A resin as described in claim 10 wherein said first and second cycloolefin copolymers are derived from cycloolefin starting materials that are substantially the same chemically.

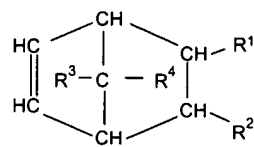
14 (Original) A resin as described in claim 13 wherein said first and second cycloolefin copolymers are derived from ethylene and norbornene.

15 (Previously Presented) A resin as described in claim 9 which is substantially free of metal salts of fatty acids.

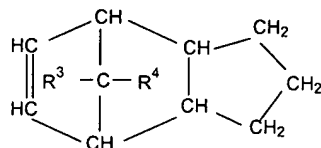
16 (Original) A resin as described in claim 13 wherein said lubricant is present in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 0.5 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the resin.

17 (Original) A resin as described in claim 13 wherein said antioxidant comprises at least one phenolic antioxidant.

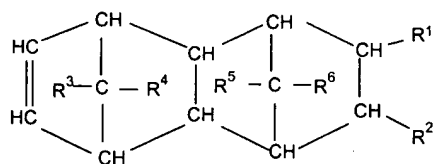
18 (Previously Presented) A resin as described in claim 9 wherein said first and second cycloolefin copolymers are random copolymers comprising units derived from ethylene and at least one cycloolefin selected from the group consisting of:



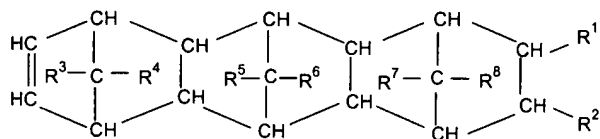
(I)



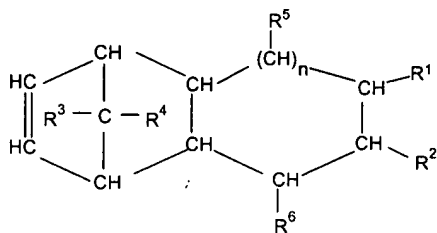
(II)



(III)

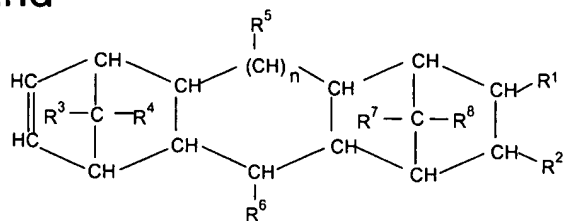


(IV)



(V)

and



(VI)

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , and R^8 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1 to C_{20} alkyl groups, C_6 to C_{20} aryl groups, F, Cl, Br, and I, and n is an integer having a value from 0 to 5.

19 (Original) A molded article for optical applications that is formed from the resin of claim 1.